

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF RONALD ROGERS

(Mrs. DEMINGS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. DEMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and legacy of Mr. Ronald Rogers. Ron dedicated his life to public service and to creating opportunities for young people.

Ron was a proud member of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. and a graduate of Florida A&M University. But above all, he was a proud graduate of Jones High School, and he loved the students with all of his heart and soul.

As founder and president of the Orlando chapter of 100 Black Men of America, he worked hard to mentor students and provide scholarships and other resources to help them during their college years.

Ron also served in numerous leadership roles, including as city administrator for the historic town of Eatonville, where his vision for Eatonville helped pave the way for the town's success today.

Ron never stopped, paused, or exhaled. He had an unwavering sense of urgency about serving his community, about making his community better.

Ron Rogers truly made a difference in the lives of others, and we are so grateful for a life well-lived.

SUPPORTING OUR CORRECTIONS OFFICERS

(Mr. KELLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, early Monday morning, two corrections officers at Allenwood Federal penitentiary in Union County, Pennsylvania, were viciously assaulted in the line of duty by an inmate.

While both Officer Sara Harvey and Officer Dale Franquet were injured, their heroic actions resulted in subduing an armed and violent inmate and preventing the inmate from harming others.

Officer Harvey has since returned to work, while Officer Franquet remains in the hospital undergoing treatment.

Both of these individuals exemplify sacrifice and service. They are true heroes.

This tragic incident is a stark reminder of the challenges our corrections officers face on a daily basis. Despite great personal risk to themselves and their families, corrections officers go to work every day out of a deeply rooted sense of service.

Our entire community is grateful for these two corrections officers and every person employed in the prison who continue to stand guard.

As chairman of the BOP Reform Caucus, I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues in Congress to ensure that our corrections officers have the resources and support they

need to do their jobs effectively and, most importantly, safely.

SALUTING KIMBERLY A. ROSS

(Mrs. BEATTY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute and salute a person who has dedicated 20 years of her life to this institution, coming here in 2000 as a young, brilliant regulatory attorney to work in the Senate as a senior LA, then to the House as a legislative director, then to be the staff attorney for the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, and, finally, to my office as chief of staff and counsel, the only chief of staff I have had since 2013.

She is one of the most loyal, hardest working, dedicated, and intelligent individuals I have worked with. I consider it an honor to have worked with her.

Her footprints are deep. They leave an impression to guide others. Her words of wisdom, generosity, historical knowledge, quickness to speak, analytical thoughts, late night conversations, and early morning pickups to work make her my national treasure.

This woman is Kimberly Ross, Esquire, Chief of Staff, who serves faithfully to this institution and to me.

Kimberly, you have climbed every mountain, now enjoy the view. Happy retirement. And to you and your wonderful husband, Bernard, good luck and congratulations on your next venture.

BUCKET BRIGADE BREWING

(Mr. VAN DREW asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Bucket Brigade Brewing in Cape May Courthouse in south Jersey.

They actually were founded by two identical twin brothers, Kurt and Karl Hughes. The brothers are also firefighters from Cape May County.

The Hughes family has a long, storied history in this great Nation, even having a relative who signed the Declaration of Independence. His name was Thomas McKean.

The Bucket Brigade taproom was inspired by the rich history of Cape May County's small businesses. I was lucky enough to swing by and visit with them recently.

I want to thank them for their commitment to south Jersey and to first responders and partnering with the National Fallen Firefighters Association to assist those who are in real need.

Mr. Speaker, if you happen to be in the area, make sure to grab a nice cold beer.

I thank Kurt and Karl for all they do for their community.

God bless you, and God bless America.

HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

(Mr. HALL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about the importance of historically Black colleges and universities.

For over 150 years, HBCUs have played an important role in the education, cultivation, and upward mobility of African Americans. But as the Nation's economy changes and shifts firmly towards the information age, our Nation's HBCUs must be steadfast in following this trend.

Software and technology startups are the largest creators of new jobs and wealth creation in this country in decades; however, there is an imbalance for minorities to have access to this opportunity. For example, less than 1 percent of all venture capital dollars go to Black founders.

Software and technology startups are the chance to build something from nothing. Indeed, to do so is the American Dream.

We need to make that dream, the tech startup dream, available to all minorities and overlooked communities. This program, Startup the HBCUs, can significantly increase the number of minorities that work in the high-tech field and increase the number of minorities that are founders of tech companies.

If we follow these steps, we will be able to ensure that the American Dream in the information age is available to all, including our students at our Nation's historically Black colleges and universities.

THE FIRST MILITIA

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, in December 1636, the first militia regiments in North America were organized in Massachusetts and recognized by Massachusetts Bay Colony's General Court. This date marks the founding of State militias that collectively make up the National Guard.

The men and women of the National Guard make great sacrifices to protect our homeland and citizens from harm. Their duties encompass more than just mitigating violence and civil unrest or being mobilized overseas.

For example, just this year, in my home State of California, two National Guard aircrews flew repeatedly into the raging Creek fire in southern California to rescue nearly trapped campers, hikers, and residents. Their heroic efforts saved nearly 400 lives.

This bravery is not uncommon to National Guardsmen, and for 384 years they have always been, and always will be, there for us.